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<b>Author(s)</b>	<b>Chau, F; Lou, B</b>
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# Supporting Web-based Learning at the University of Hong Kong

Fanny Chau

Computer Centre

The University of Hong Kong



April 2001



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# IT Infrastructure for Teaching and Learning

- ✿ high-speed campus Gigabit/FastEthernet network
- ✿ powerful and high resilient servers
- ✿ student notebook PC program
- ✿ courseware tools for web-based courses



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# HKU Campus Network

- ❁ 14000 wired 100Mbps network points in student halls, labs, department offices and open locations over campus
- ❁ 40+ classrooms/open areas equipped with wireless LAN at up to 11Mbps
- ❁ 800+ dial-up modem lines for home network access; also partner up with ISP
- ❁ 30Mbps connection to HARNET and 48Mbps to Internet
- ❁ Virtual Private Network (VPN) gateway to allow access to HKU Intranet via Internet

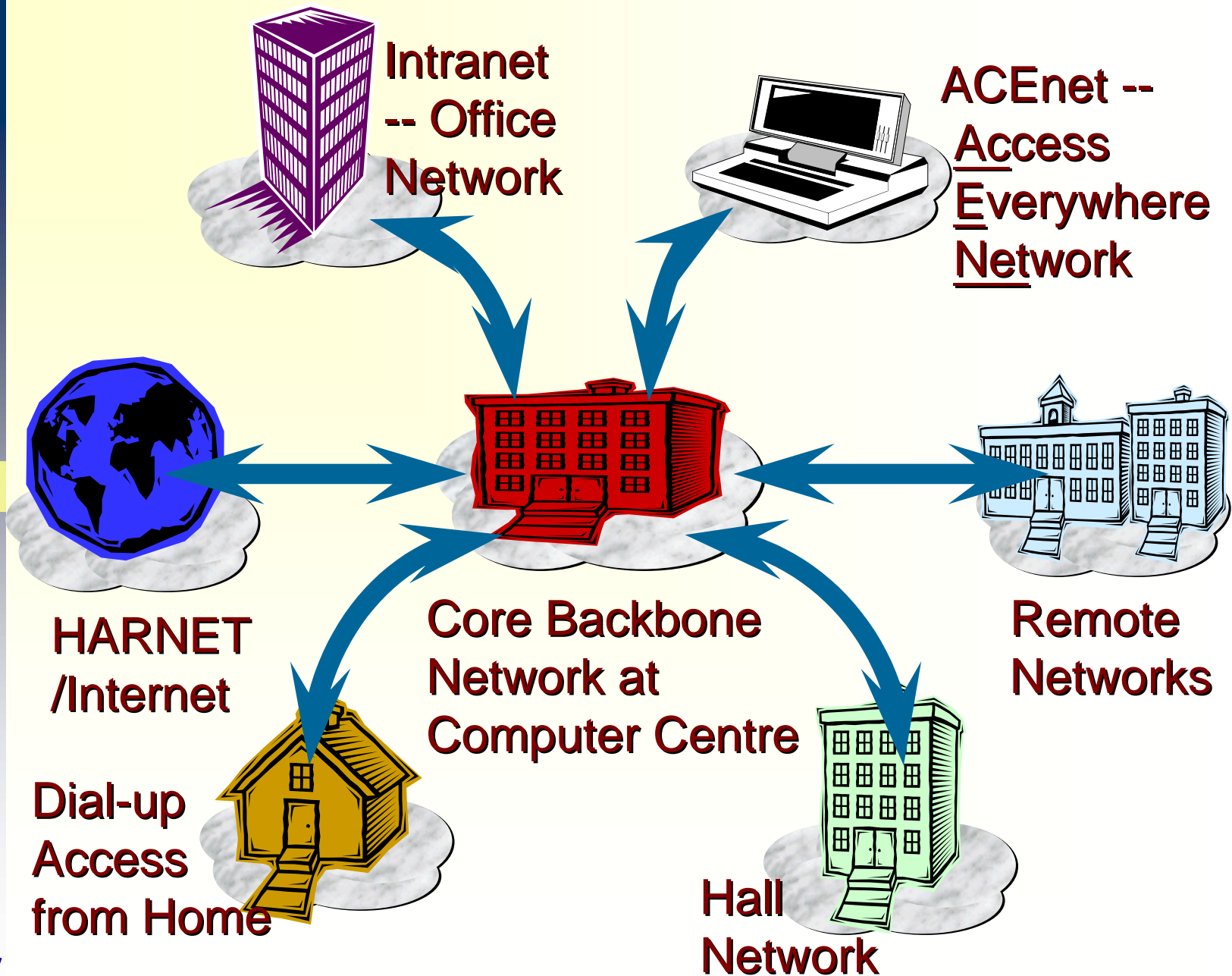


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# Powerful Server for Web Courses

## ❁ Current

- ❁ a pair of IBM RS6000/SP AIX supercomputers to enhance system availability
- ❁ 4x332 MHz CPUs and 1Gbyte memory each

## ❁ July 2001

- ❁ A domain on Sun E10000 server
- ❁ 4x400 MHz CPUs and 2Gbyte memory
- ❁ no restriction on disk consumption for web courses



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# Notebook Computers for Students

- ✿ all Year 1 students can join notebook purchase program starting from 1998
- ✿ pre-configured for connection to roaming network (ACEnet), Hall Network, PPP



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## PC laboratory

- ❁ central PC labs and Faculty PC labs run by Computer Centre
- ❁ installed with many application software
- ❁ provides network printing service at cost
- ❁ all connected to campus network and Internet





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# Web-based Teaching & Learning Tools



Nov 1997 Started looking for tools

Mar 1998 Introduced WebCT to HKU

Oct 1998 100 courses created

Mar 2001 549 courses created



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# Supporting WebCT at HKU – System Support

## ❁ System maintenance

### ❁ Backup, Testing, Upgrade

- ❁ WebCT 3.5 trial server open for testing **now**
- ❁ **July 2001** production server upgraded to v3.5

## ❁ Program customization

### ❁ Automatic Account System

- ❁ Create WebCT student accounts according to Registry enrollment database



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# Supporting WebCT at HKU -

## User Support

### ✿ Training on WebCT

#### ✿ 3 labs

- ✿ Introduction to WebCT functions
- ✿ Designing web-based courses with WebCT
- ✿ Next training - [May 15, 2001](#)

### ✿ General trainings on html editing

### ✿ Email and hotline

- ✿ [Ccbox@hkucc.hku.hk](mailto:Ccbox@hkucc.hku.hk) – front line support
- ✿ [Webct@ecourse.hku.hk](mailto:Webct@ecourse.hku.hk) – WebCT group
- ✿ Respond within 1 working day
- ✿ Help Desk – 28592480
- ✿ WebCT system administrator – 22415183



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# Supporting WebCT at HKU - Information update

- ✿ HKU WebCT homepage

<http://www.hku.hk/cc/webct>

- ✿ mailing list for course designers
- ✿ seminars



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**Thank you!**